# Engineering Interpretations

# Construction Material and Excavating

Soils are rated as sources for road fill, topsoil, sand, and gravel. Suitability ratings of good, fair, or poor are given for soils used as a source of road fill and topsoil. Ratings of probable and improbable are given for sand and gravel. A rating of probable means that on the basis of the available evidence, the source material is likely to be in or below the soil. A rating of improbable means that the source material is unlikely to be in or below the soil. The ratings for sand and gravel do not consider the quality of the source material because quality depends on how the source material is to be used.

# Road Fill

Road fill consists of soil material that is excavated from its original position and used in road embankments elsewhere. The evaluations for road fill are for low embankments that generally are less than 6 feet in height and are less exacting in design than high embankments such as those along superhighways. The rating is given for the whole soil, from the surface to a depth of about 5 feet, based on the assumption that soil horizons will be mixed in loading, dumping, and spreading. Soils are rated as to the amount of material available for excavation, the ease of excavation, and how well the material performs after it is in place.

# Sand

Sand as a construction material is usually defined as particles ranging in size from 0.074 mm (sieve #200) to 4.75 mm (sieve #4) in diameter. Sand is used in great quantities in many kinds of construction. Specifications for each purpose vary widely. The intent of this rating is to show only the probability of finding material in suitable quantity. The suitability of the sand for specific purposes is not evaluated. If the lowest layer of the soil contains sand, the soil is rated as a probable source regardless of thickness. The assumption is that the sand layer below the depth of observation exceeds the minimum thickness.

# Gravel

Gravel as a construction material is defined as particles ranging in size from 4.76 mm (sieve #4) to 76 mm (3 inches) in diameter.

Gravel is used in great quantities in many kinds of construction. Specifications for each purpose vary widely. The intent of this rating is to show only the probability of finding material in suitable quantity. The suitability of the gravel for specific purposes is not evaluated. If the lowest layer of the soil contains gravel, the soil is rated as a probable source regardless of thickness. The assumption is that the gravel layer below the depth of observation exceeds the minimum thickness.

# Topsoil

The term "topsoil" has several meanings. As used here, the term describes soil material used to cover an area so as to improve soil conditions for establishment and maintenance of adapted vegetation. Generally, the upper part of the soil, which is richest in organic matter, is most desirable; however, material excavated from deeper layers is also used. In this rating, the upper 40 inches of soil material is evaluated for use as topsoil. In the

borrow area, the material below 40 inches is evaluated for its suitability for plant growth after the upper 40 inches is removed. The soil properties that are used to rate the soil as topsoil are those that affect plant growth, the ease of excavation, loading, and spreading, and those that affect the reclamation of the borrow area.

This subsection includes:

• (a) Construction Materials and Excavating

# Construction Materials and Excavating

Map symbol and soil name	Source for roadfill		Source for sand		Source for gravel		Source for topsoil		Shallow excavations	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
10C: Bevier	  Very limited  ~low strength   (very limited)  ~shrink-swell   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00	   Very limited   ~excess fines   (thickest layer)   ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)	      1.00    1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	1.00   0.41   0.29
11: Edina	Very limited   ~shrink-swell   (very limited)   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~wetness   (very limited)	  1.00    1.00    1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)	  1.00    1.00 	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.70    0.29
14C2: Armstrong	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (limited)   ~wetness   (moderately limited)	  1.00    0.91    0.48	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Limited  ~too clayey   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~small stones   (slightly limited)	0.99	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.29    0.27
14D2: Armstrong	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (limited)   ~wetness   (moderately limited)	  1.00    0.70    0.48	Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Limited  ~too clayey   (limited)  ~slope   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	  0.66    0.63    0.48	(very limited)	  1.00    0.63    0.29

#### Construction Materials and Excavating

Map symbol and soil name	Source for roadfill		Source for sand		Source for gravel		Source for topsoil		Shallow excavations	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
16D2: Caleb	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~wetness   (slightly limited)   ~shrink-swell   (slightly limited)	   1.00   0.12   0.04	Very limited  -excess fines (thickest layer)  -excess fines (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	Limited  ~slope   (limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	    0.63    0.17    0.12	(very limited)	  1.00    1.00    0.63
Mystic	Very limited  -low strength   (very limited)  -shrink-swell   (limited)  -wetness   (limited)	  1.00    0.84    0.71	Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	   Very limited   ~excess fines   (bottom layer)   ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  very limited  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (limited)  ~slope   (limited)	  1.00    0.71    0.63	(very limited)	  1.00    0.63    0.33
17C: Bevier	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (very limited)   ~wetness   (very limited)	  1.00    1.00    1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines  (thickest layer)  ~excess fines  (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)	  1.00    1.00 	Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.41    0.29
18C2: Gorin	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (limited)   ~wetness   (moderately limited)	1.00	Very limited  -excess fines   (thickest layer)  -excess fines   (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Limited  ~too clayey   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	  0.69    0.48 	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	1.00   0.53   0.29

# Construction Materials and Excavating

Map symbol and soil name	Source for roadfill		Source for sand		Source for gravel		Source for topsoil		Shallow excavations	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
20C2: Clarinda	  Very limited  ~low strength   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~shrink-swell   (very limited)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  very limited  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)	    1.00    1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.64    0.29
22B: Adco	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (limited)   ~wetness   (limited)	  1.00    0.98    0.71	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  very limited  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (limited)	  1.00    0.71 	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.79    0.29
23D2: Keswick	  Very limited  ~low strength   (very limited)  ~shrink-swell   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	  1.00    0.98    0.48	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	Very limited  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~slope   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.48    0.16	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.53    0.29
24E2: Gara	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (moderately limited)   ~slope   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.45    0.25	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  very limited  ~slope   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited) 	  1.00    0.58   	  Very limited  ~slope   (very limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.29    0.05

# Construction Materials and Excavating

Map symbol and soil name	Source for roadfill		Source for sand		Source for gravel		Source for topsoil		Shallow excavations	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
24F2: Gara	  Very limited  ~slope   (very limited)  ~low strength   (very limited)  ~shrink-swell   (moderately limited)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines  (thickest layer)  ~excess fines  (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~slope   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)	      1.00    0.58	  very limited  ~slope   (very limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.29    0.05
26C2: Leonard	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (very limited)   ~wetness   (very limited)	  1.00  1.00  1.00	Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  very limited  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)	  1.00    1.00 	  very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.38    0.29
28E2: Winnegan	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (very limited)   ~slope   (slightly limited)	  1.00    1.00    0.25	Very limited  -excess fines (thickest layer)  -excess fines (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~slope   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	  1.00    1.00    0.03	  Very limited  ~slope   (very limited)  ~wetness   (limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)	  1.00    0.99    0.33
28F2: Winnegan	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (very limited)   ~slope   (very limited)	  1.00  1.00  1.00	Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~slope   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	  1.00    1.00    0.03	  very limited  ~slope   (very limited)  ~wetness   (limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)	  1.00    0.99    0.33

# Construction Materials and Excavating

Map symbol and soil name	Source for roadfill		Source for sand		Source for gravel		Source for topsoil		Shallow excavations	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
34B2:		j I		İ		İ		į į		İ
Seymour	Very limited  ~low strength   (very limited)  ~shrink-swell   (very limited)  ~wetness   (limited)	  1.00    1.00    0.71	Very limited  -excess fines (thickest layer)  -excess fines (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	Very limited   ~excess fines   (bottom layer)   ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	Limited  ~too clayey   (limited)  ~wetness   (limited)	  0.99    0.71 	Very limited	  1.00    0.29    0.27
36C2: Lamoni	   Very limited   ~shrink-swell   (very limited)   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~wetness   (moderately limited)	  1.00    1.00    0.48	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	Limited  ~too clayey   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	    0.99    0.48 	  very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.29    0.27
40: Arbela	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~wetness   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (moderately limited)	  1.00    1.00    0.32	Very limited  -excess fines (thickest layer)  -excess fines (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	(bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (very limited)	  1.00    1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)	0.30
Humeston	<pre> ~low strength   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)</pre>	  1.00    1.00    1.00	Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	   Very limited   ~excess fines   (bottom layer)   ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	   Very limited   ~wetness   (very limited)   ~too clayey   (very limited)	  1.00    1.00 	   Very limited   ~wetness   (very limited)   ~flooding   (moderately limited)   ~too clayey   (moderately limited)	0.33

#### Construction Materials and Excavating

Map symbol and soil name	Source for roadfill		Source for sand		Source for gravel		Source for topsoil		Shallow excavations	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
45: Kennebec	  Very limited  ~low strength   (very limited)  ~shrink-swell   (moderately limited)	      1.00    0.45	Very limited  -excess fines   (thickest layer)  -excess fines   (bottom layer)	    1.00    1.00	   Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Slightly limited  ~too clayey   (slightly limited) 	      0.04     	Limited  -wetness   (limited)  -flooding   (moderately limited)  -cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	    0.61    0.60    0.29
Fatima	  Very limited  ~low strength   (very limited)  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.03	  very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	1.00	  very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Slightly limited  ~wetness   (slightly limited) 	  0.03       	Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  0.99    0.60    0.29
46: Vesser	  Very limited  ~low strength   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~shrink-swell   (moderately limited)	  1.00    1.00    0.45	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	  Very limited  ~excess fines  (bottom layer)  ~excess fines  (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)   	    1.00         	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.60    0.29
47: Zook	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~wetness   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (very limited)	  1.00  1.00  1.00	Very limited  -excess fines   (thickest layer)  -excess fines   (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (limited)	  1.00    0.91 	  very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)	0.33

#### Construction Materials and Excavating

Map symbol and soil name	Source for roadfill		Source for sand		Source for gravel		Source for topsoil		Shallow excavations	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value   _	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value
51: Amana	  Very limited  ~low strength  (very limited)  ~shrink-swell  (moderately limited)  ~wetness  (slightly limited)	      1.00    0.45    0.26	Very limited  -excess fines  (thickest layer)  -excess fines  (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines  (bottom layer)  ~excess fines  (thickest layer)	1.00	  Moderately limited  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	      0.55    0.26	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	   1.00     0.60     0.29
54B: Zook	  Very limited  ~low strength   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~shrink-swell   (very limited)	  1.00  1.00  1.00	  very limited  ~excess fines  (thickest layer)  ~excess fines  (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (limited)	  1.00    0.91	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.33    0.29
Excello	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~wetness   (moderately limited)   ~shrink-swell   (moderately limited)	  1.00    0.48    0.45	Very limited  -excess fines   (thickest layer)  -excess fines   (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	  -excess fines   (bottom layer)  -excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	   Moderately limited   ~wetness   (moderately limited)   ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	  0.48    0.21 	Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.29 
56B: Zook	Very limited   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~wetness   (very limited)   ~shrink-swell   (very limited)	1.00	Very limited  -excess fines (thickest layer)  -excess fines (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines  (bottom layer)  ~excess fines  (thickest layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (limited)	  1.00    0.91	Very limited   ~wetness   (very limited)   ~too clayey   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.30    0.29
Excello	! -	0.45	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)	  1.00    1.00 	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	  1.00    1.00	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)	  0.48    0.33 	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.60    0.29

#### Construction Materials and Excavating

Map symbol and soil name	Source for roadfill		Source for sand		Source for gravel		Source for topsoil		Shallow excavations	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
60:										
Wabash	Very limited   ~shrink-swell   (very limited)   ~low strength   (very limited)   ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00	Very limited  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)		Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	  1.00    1.00 	Very limited  ~too clayey   (very limited)  ~wetness   (very limited)	ĺ	Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~too clayey   (moderately limited)	0.60
64C2: Alvin	  Not limited 		  Possible source  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)  ~possible source   (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines   (bottom layer)  ~excess fines   (thickest layer)	1.00	  Limited  ~too sandy   (limited)	0.60	  Very limited  ~cutbanks cave   (very limited)	1.00
67: Aquents	  Not Rated 		  Not Rated    Not Rated		  Not Rated    Not Rated		  Not Rated    Not Rated  Not Rated		  Not Rated 	
75: Ackmore	  Very limited  ~low strength  (very limited)  ~wetness  (very limited)  ~shrink-swell  (very limited)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines  (thickest layer)  ~excess fines  (bottom layer)	1.00	  Very limited  ~excess fines  (bottom layer)  ~excess fines  (thickest layer)	İ	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~too clayey   (limited)	ĺ	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~cutbanks cave   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.60    0.29
M-W: Water	  Not rated 		  Not rated 		  Not rated 		  Not rated 		  Not rated 	
W: Water	  Not rated	ļ	  Not rated		  Not rated	 	  Not rated		  Not rated	